

Message Text

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44

ACTION ARA-20

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NSAE-00 RSC-01 SNM-02 SY-10 TRSE-00 USIA-15 NSC-10

SCI-06 OMB-01 AID-20 DODE-00 L-03 SS-15 RSR-01 /128 W

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R 092200Z AUG 73

FM AMEMBASSY BRIDGETOWN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6007

INFO AMEMBASSY CARACAS

C O N F I D E N T I A L BRIDGETOWN 1089

STATE FOR SHLAUDEMAN

CARACAS FOR DEA

E.O. 11652 GDS

TAGS: SNAR AC BB DO GJ MH SC ST VC

SUBJ: NCAP: BARBADOS AND THE EASTERN CARIBBEAN

REF: 1. STATE 142821; 2. BRIDGETOWN 216

1. YOUR MESSAGE REGARDING THE SUBMISSION OF ITEMS FOR THE ARA MONTHLY NARCOTICS REPORT IS TIMELY IN THAT THE PRESENT NCO, DONALD E. HUTH, IS PREPARING TO DEPART THE POST FOR ANOTHER ASSIGNMENT AND WELCOMES THIS OPPORTUNITY TO DISCUSS THE PRESENT STATE OF THE NCAP FOR BARBADOS AND THE EASTERN CARIBBEAN. THE DCM, PETER P. LORD, WILL ASSUME DUTIES AS NCO, WHICH WILL PROVIDE FOR CONTINUITY OF OUR PROGRAM.

2. POLITICAL COMMITMENT: THE LOCAL GOVERNMENTS, OFFICIALLY, AND GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS, PRIVATELY, CONDEMN DRUG ABUSE AND TRAFFICKING. ALL GOVERNMENTS IN THIS AREA HAVE COOPERATED WITH US IN INCREASING AWARENESS OF THE PROBLEM AND HAVE PUT THE TRAINING SUPPLIED BY THE USG TO GOOD USE. THE GOB THUS FAR IN 1973 HAS FULLY COMMITTED ITSELF TO KEEPING BARBADOS CLEAN OF DRUGS AND SUPPORTING THE CONFIDENTIAL

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INTERNATIONAL EFFORT:

A) THE GOB MINISTER OF HEALTH AND WELFARE, DR. RAMESES CADDLE, DURING HIS ADDRESS TO THE JUNE, 1973, NARCOTICS TRAINING COURSE FOR CUSTOMS OFFICERS HELD IN BARBADOS,

ANNOUNCED THAT HE WOULD SOON INTRODUCE NEW DRUG LEGISLATION IN PARLIAMENT (BRIDGETOWN A-123). THIS LEGISLATION, WHICH SUBSTANTIALLY UPDATES THE DEFINITIONS CONTAINED IN THE 1937 LAW, MORE ADEQUATELY DESCRIBES DRUGS OF ABUSE AND PROVIDES FOR STIFFER PENALTIES, IS NOW UNDER DISCUSSION IN PARLIAMENT AND SHOULD PASS EASILY WITHIN THE NEXT FEW MONTHS.

B) THE GOB, ON JULY 27, 1973, NOTIFIED THE EMBASSY (IN RESPONSE TO OUR NOTE OF JULY 24, 1973 SEE REF 1.) THAT IT PLANS TO CONTRIBUTE TO THE UNITED NATIONS FUND FOR DRUG ABUSE CONTROL (UNFDAC). THE NCO LEARNED INFORMALLY THAT THE AMOUNT OF THE CONTRIBUTION WILL BE US DOLS 500. ALTHOUGH THIS MAY SEEM A SMALL AMOUNT, WE BELIEVE THE GOB'S DECISION DEMONSTRATES ITS COMMITMENT TO INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION AND THE SERIOUSNESS WITH WHICH IT VIEWS THE PROBLEM.

C) THE GOB ALSO HAS ACCEDED TO THE FOLLOWING INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION, BY DEPOSIT OF INSTRUMENTS WITH THE SECRETARY-GENERAL OF THE UNITED NATIONS, RELATING TO THE CONTROL OF NARCOTICS SUBSTANCES:

- (1) SINGLE CONVENTION ON NARCOTICS DRUGS, SIGNED AT NEW YORK, 1961.
 - (2) CONVENTION RELATING TO THE SUPPRESSION OF THE ABUSE OF OPIUM AND OTHER DRUGS, SIGNED AT THE HAGUE, 1912.
 - (3) CONVENTION FOR LIMITING THE MANUFACTURE AND REGULATING THE DISTRIBUTION OF NARCOTICS DRUGS, WITH PROTOCOL OF SIGNATURE, CONCLUDED AT GENEVA, 1931;
 - (4) PROTOCOL AMENDING AGREEMENTS, CONVENTIONS AND PROTOCOLS ON NARCOTICS DRUGS, SIGNED AT LAKE SUCCESS, NEW YORK, 1946;
 - (5) PROTOCOL BRINGING UNDER INTERNATIONAL CONTROL DRUGS OUTSIDE THE SCOPE OF THE CONVENTION OF JULY 13, 1931, DONE AT PARIS, 1948. ALTHOUGH THE ASSUMPTION HAD BEEN THAT BARBADOS WAS A PARTY TO THE 1912, 1931, 1948, AND 1961 CONVENTIONS AND PROTOCOLS UPON ATTAINING INDEPENDENCE FROM THE UK IN 1966, THE GOB HAS NOW FORMALLY ACCEDED TO THESE INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENTS PLUS THE AMENDING PROTOCOL OF 1946, TO WHICH THE GOB WAS NOT A PARTY. THE GOB HAS NOT ACCEDED TO THE 1953 PROTOCOL WHICH DEALS WITH THE REGULATION
- CONFIDENTIAL

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OF PRODUCTION, AS BARBADOS NOT A PRODUCING AREA.

- D) THE GOB HAS COOPERATED WITH THE US, AND THE UK THROUGH THE BRITISH DEVELOPMENT DIVISION IN THE CARIBBEAN (DEVDIV), IN SPONSORING TWO DRUG TRAINING COURSES IN BARBADOS. ONE IN JULY, 1972, FOR 68 POLICE AND CUSTOMS PARTICIPANTS FROM 14 CARIBBEAN TERRITORIES AND ONE IN JUNE, 1973, FOR 20 CUSTOMS OFFICERS FROM BARBADOS AND THE WINDWARD ISLANDS.
- E) THE GOB HAS RECENTLY EMPHASIZED EDUCATION AS THE PRIMARY WEAPON IN DISCOURAGING DRUG ABUSE AND PROVIDES LECTURERS, FROM THE POLICE AND MINISTRY OF HEALTH, ON THE SUBJECT FOR MEETINGS AT SCHOOLS, PTA GATHERINGS, SOCIAL CENTERS AND ELSEWHERE.

3. TRAINING: IN ADDITION TO THE IN-COUNTRY TRAINING COURSES MENTIONED IN PARA 2 ABOVE AND REPORTED TO THE DEPARTMENT THE FOLLOWING ARE OR HAVE BEEN SENT TO THE US FOR TRAINING:

A) CUSTOMS: ONE OFFICER FROM BARBADOS;

B) BNDD: ONE POLICE OFFICER FROM BARBADOS AND ONE FROM DOMINICA;

C) OPS: TWO POLICE OFFICERS FROM ANTIGUA, ONE FROM BARBADOS, ONE FROM ST. KITTS AND ONE FROM ST. VINCENT; OPS HAS JUST ALLOCATED THREE SPACES FOR A COURSE BEGINNING IN SEPTEMBER, 1973, AND WE HAVE NOMINATED SIX POLICE OFFICERS TO ATTEND: ONE FROM BARBADOS, ONE FROM DOMINICA, TWO FROM GRENADA AND TWO FROM ST. LUCIA, HOPING THAT OPS CAN ACCOMMODATE ALL. (THE LEGAL ATTACHE IN CARACAS HAS ALLOCATED TWO SPACES - ONE EACH FOR ANTIGUA AND BARBADOS - FOR TRAINING IN THE FBI NATIONAL ACADEMY DURING CY 73-4. ALTHOUGH THIS IS NOT DRUG-RELATED TRAINING WE BELIEVE THE NARCOTICS EFFORT WILL GAIN A SPIN-OFF ADVANTAGE IN ANY INCREASED POLICE EFFICIENCY.) DURING FY-74 THERE WILL BE ANOTHER IN-COUNTRY TRAINING COURSE FOR 25 CUSTOMS OFFICERS TO BE HELD IN ANTIGUA. THE EMBASSY IS REQUESTING THE GOA TO PROPOSE A VENUE FOR THIS COURSE.

4. LABORATORY FACILITIES: MR. KENNETH JONES, UNDER CONTRACT TO DEVDIV, HAS PRODUCED A REPORT ON THE FORENSIC SCIENCE FACILITIES IN THE EASTERN CARIBBEAN (SEE BRIDGETOWN A-134) AND FOUND THEM, IN SOME RESPECTS, LACKING IN QUANTITY AND QUALITY. IN PARTICULAR HE REPORTS THAT DOMINICA, GRENADA, CONFIDENTIAL

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ST. LUCIA AND ST. VINCENT REQUIRE THE SERVICES OF ANALYSTS, WHO CAN QUALIFY AS EXPERTS, TO GIVE TESTIMONY IN COURT. THE EMBASSY RECOMMENDS IN A-134 THAT WE PROVIDE TRAINING IN DEA LABS FOR FOUR QUALIFIED TECHNICIANS - ONE FROM EACH OF THE ABOVE ISLANDS - AND SUPPLY A MODEST AMOUNT OF LAB EQUIPMENT AND SUPPLIES AT AN ESTIMATED COST OF US DOLS 10,000.

5. SEIZURE STATISTICS: ALTHOUGH SEIZURES WILL PROBABLY DOUBLE IN 1973 WHEN COMPARED WITH 1972 WE ARE STILL TALKING ABOUT SMALL QUANTITIES AND MAINLY MARIJUANA. THE LARGEST RECENT SEIZURE WAS OF THREE SUITCASES FULL OF MARIJUANA BY THE MONTSERRAT POLICE ON JULY 19, 1973, FROM TWO CREWMEN ABOARD THE FEDERAL MAPLE. SEIZURES OF HARD DRUGS ARE NEITHER COMMON NOR LARGE.

6. OUR GOALS, AS STATED IN REFTTEL TWO,

A) TO ASSIST LOCAL GOVERNMENTS IN PREVENTING THE ILLEGAL IMPORTATION OF DANGEROUS DRUGS INTO THESE ISLANDS;

B) TO DENY THE USE OF THIS AREA TO INTERNATIONAL DRUG TRAFFICKERS;

REMAIN THE SAME. WE ARE MEETING THE FIRST GOAL AND,

THROUGH ITS IMPLEMENTATION, HOPE WE ARE MEETING
THE SECOND. HOWEVER, IN VIEW OF THE HIGH PROFITABILITY
OF DRUGS TO THE TRAFFICKER AND PLENTITUDE OF RELATIVELY
SAFE ROUTES THROUGH THE EASTERN CARIBBEAN, WE CANNOT BE
SURE THAT IS TRUE. WITH THE GROWING AWARENESS OF THE NEED
TO INCREASE THE SECURITY OF AIRPORTS AND HARBORS, AND
IMPROVED CUSTOMS INSPECTION, THE RELATIVE SAFETY OF TRAN-
SITTING THIS BY DRUG TRAFFICKERS WILL GRADUALLY LESSEN.
THE NCAP PROPOSED BY THIS EMBASSY AND APPROVED BY THE
CCINC IS DESIGNED TO MEET OUR BASIC GOALS IN THIS AREA
AND IS WELL ON ITS WAY TO FULFILMENT.
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